

Alfred Lobley MM 1897-1918

Alfred was born in Batley on 30th December 1897. His father was Tom Lobley, a Grocery Manager born in Batley Carr in 1874 and died in 1948. His mother was Clara (nee Wright) born in Batley in 1874 and died in 1941. They were married at St. Thomas's Church, Batley on 13th July 1897.

Their other children were; Richard, born in 1899, Willie Wright, born in 1901, Amy, born in 1902 and died in 1904 and Dorothy, born in 1909.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 25, Hartley Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 38, Hartley Street and later at 26, Mitchell Avenue, Halifax Road, Dewsbury.

Alfred worked as a shop boy for an Electrician in 1911 but was later employed by Messrs S.P. Fairhurst, Rag Merchants.

He served in the 2nd West Riding Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery with the Service Number 781842 rising to the rank of Serjeant; his obituary stated that he enlisted in 1914 but he did not serve on the Western Front until 1916 onwards. The London Gazette published on 16th August 1917 announced that he had been awarded the Military Medal for Gallantry in the Field. His death was a result of an accident which happened in March 1918, he was watering some horses when his saddle slipped and he was thrown to the ground and his head was trampled under his horse's hooves. He was hospitalised in Scotland for several months and was eventually declared fit to return to active service, he was about to return to his unit but on being examined at the Heavy Woollen District Military Hospital he was detained. He was in a great deal of pain, which he had concealed; his condition deteriorated and he died on 26th July 1918 and was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery. In addition to the Military Medal, Alfred was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He was regarded as an exemplary soldier and was being considered for promotion to Serjeant-Major at the time of his accident.

Alfred is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of

Serjeant

A Lobley

MM

781842, 2nd West Riding Bde., Royal Field Artillery who died on 26 July 1918 Age 20

Son of Tom and Clara Lobley, of 26, Mitchell Avenue, Hill Head, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour Dewsbury Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

